

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An oral care device comprising
a body defining a longitudinal axis having a head shaped for insertion into the oral cavity,
and

B' a rocking element mounted on the head, the rocking element including a central portion
and a plurality of protrusions extending radially from the central portion along the longitudinal
axis of the body, wherein the protrusions taper from a relatively wide base to a relatively narrow
tip and wherein the tips are shaped to penetrate the interproximal and subgingival regions of the
oral cavity.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The oral care device of claim 1 further comprising tooth cleansing
elements extending from a top surface of the head.

4. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein the head includes a slot for
mounting the rocking element, the slot shaped to allow the rocking element to rock back and
forth as the oral care device is used.

5. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 4 wherein the slot is sized to support the
rocking element in a direction perpendicular to the direction of rocking, thereby restricting
movement of the rocking element in the perpendicular direction.

6. (Cancelled)

✓ 7. (Original) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein the tips have a width of less than 0.070.

8. (Original) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein the tips have a width of from about 0.005 to 0.025 inches.

9. (Original) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein the rocking element has a thickness of less than 0.200 inches.

10. (Original) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein the rocking element has a thickness of from 0.050 to 0.125 inches.

B' 11. (Original) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein the rocking element has a thickness of from 0.080 to 0.100 inches.

12. (Original) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein the rocking element has an overall diameter less than 1.000 inches.

13. (Original) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein the rocking element has an overall diameter of from 0.500 to 0.700 inches.

14. (Original) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein the rocking element has an overall diameter of from 0.550 to 0.650 inches.

15. (Original) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein the rocking element is formed of a material having a durometer reading of from about 20 to 90 Shore A.

16. (Original) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein the rocking element is formed of a material having a durometer reading of from about 40 to 80 Shore A.

17. (Original) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein the central portion further includes an opening therethrough sized to allow the rocking element to conform to a tooth's shape during use.

18. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein each protrusion has a double taper from a relatively wide base to a relatively narrow tip.

19. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 18 wherein each protrusion is generally diamond-shaped in cross section.

20. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 18 wherein each protrusion is generally triangular in cross section.

21. (Original) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein the rocking element is co-molded with the head.

22. (Original) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein the rocking element further comprises a mounting element sized to mount into a hole in the head.

23. (Original) The oral care device of claim 1 further comprising a second rocking element.

24. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 1 wherein the central portion is spherical.

25. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 24 wherein the protrusions are located on the upper hemisphere of the central portion.

26. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 24 wherein the protrusions are spaced less than 90 degrees apart.

27. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 24 wherein the protrusions are spaced from about 65 to 80 degrees apart.

28. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 24 wherein the protrusions are cylindrical.

29. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 24 wherein the protrusions have a base diameter less than 0.100 inches.

30. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 24 wherein the protrusions have a base diameter from about 0.010 inches to 0.100 inches.

31. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 24 wherein the protrusions have a base diameter from about 0.040 inches to 0.060 inches.

B' 32. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 24 wherein the protrusions have a length less than 0.100 inches.

33. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 24 wherein the protrusions have a length of from about 0.050 inches to 0.175 inches.

34. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 24 wherein the protrusions have a length of from about 0.070 inches to 0.080 inches.

35. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 24 wherein the spherical central portion has a diameter less than 0.300 inches.

36. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 24 wherein the spherical central portion has a diameter from about 0.100 inches to 0.300 inches.

37. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 24 wherein the spherical central portion has a diameter from about 0.200 inches to 0.250 inches.

38. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 24 wherein the movement of the rocking element during brushing is substantially omnidirectional.

39. (Withdrawn) The oral care device of claim 1 or 24 wherein the rocking element further comprises a shaft, mounted on the central portion to act as a fulcrum for rocking movement of the rocking element.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Withdrawn) A method of oral hygiene comprising:

B' inserting into the oral cavity of a human an oral brush that comprises a body defining a longitudinal axis having a head, tooth cleansing elements extending from a top surface of the head, and a rocking element mounted on the head, the rocking element including a central portion and a plurality of protrusions extending radially from the central portion ~~portion~~ along the longitudinal axis of the body, wherein the protrusions taper from a relatively wide base to a relatively narrow tip and wherein the tips are shaped to penetrate the interproximal and subgingival regions of the oral cavity; and

brushing the teeth with the oral brush.

42. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 41 wherein the brushing step comprises using a motion that causes the protrusions to penetrate between adjacent teeth, resulting in interproximal penetration and gum stimulation.

43. (New) The oral care device of claim 1, wherein the protrusions comprise side surfaces having a radius of curvature from about 0.150 to 0.175.

44. (New) An oral care device comprising
a body defining a longitudinal axis having a head shaped for insertion into the oral cavity,
and
a rocking element mounted on the head, the rocking element including a central portion
and a plurality of protrusions extending radially from the central portion along the longitudinal
axis of the oral care device, wherein the protrusions comprise side surfaces that define an arc
having a radius of curvature from about 0.150 to 0.175.

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